

What is claimed is:

1. A sawdust collection apparatus for a table saw having a horizontal worktable, an open bottom base below the worktable enclosing a rotating blade that cuts wood objects on the worktable surface, means for driving the saw blade, a saw blade elevating and tilting mechanism, with means for supporting the base from the floor; the apparatus including a sawdust collector for removably attaching to a table saw for collecting sawdust during use of a table saw, the collector comprising:

a container having an upper opening, inwardly sloping sides and a bottom portion;

the closure being manipulable into an open position for permitting the removal of dust collected in the container, or into a closed position;

the vacuum connector being connectable to a vacuum source;

wherein the upper opening of the container includes a fastener structure along the outer periphery of the opening and, wherein the fastener structure is capable of removable attachment to a corresponding cooperating fastener structure on the table saw.

2. The collector of claim 1 wherein the container is a bag.

3. The collector of claim 2 wherein the bag is made of cloth.

4. The collector of claim 1 wherein the closure is a zipper.

5. The collector of claim 1 wherein the vacuum connector is adapted to connect to a plurality of sizes of vacuum hoses.

6. The collector of claim 5 wherein the connector is adapted to connect to 1.25 inch and a 2.25 inch vacuum hoses.

5 7. The collector of claim 1 further including a collapse prevention structure inside the container attached to the vacuum connector, to prevent the collapse of the container when the vacuum is applied during use.

8. The collector of claim 7 wherein the collapse prevention structure is a mesh screen.

10 9. The collector of claim 8 wherein the mesh screen is made of plastic.

10. The collector of claim 9 wherein the plastic is high density polyethylene.

15 11. The collector of claim 8 wherein the mesh screen is attached to the connector with at least one fastener.

12. The collector of claim 11 wherein at least one mesh screen fastener is made of plastic.

20 13. A sawdust collector kit for a table saw having a horizontal worktable, an open bottom base below the worktable enclosing a rotating blade that cuts wood objects on the worktable surface, means for driving the saw blade, a saw blade elevating and tilting mechanism, with means for supporting the base from the floor; the apparatus including a sawdust collector for removably attaching to a  
25 table saw for collecting sawdust during use of a table saw, the collector comprising:

30 a container having an upper opening, inwardly sloping sides and a bottom portion;

the bottom portion including a closure and a vacuum connector; and,

the closure being manipulable into an open position for permitting the removal of sawdust collected in the container, or into a closed position;

the vacuum connector being connectable to a vacuum source;

5

wherein the upper opening of the container includes a fastener structure along the outer periphery of the opening and, wherein the fastener structure is capable of removable attachment to a corresponding cooperating fastener structure on the table saw; and

10

a permanently attachable table saw fastener for attachment to the table saw, capable of attaching to the corresponding fastener at the top of the container.

14. The kit of claim 13 wherein the cooperating fasteners are hook-and-loop fasteners.

15

15. The kit of claim 14 wherein the hook-and-loop fasteners are elongated strips.

20 16. The kit of claim 15 wherein the strips are adhesively backed for permanent mounting on the table saw.

17. The collector of claim 1 wherein the collector is adapted to withdraw the contents of the container in any of the following modes of operation:

25

- a) continuously by gravity through the opened closure;
- b) batch-wise by gravity through the opened closure;
- c) continuously through the vacuum connection; or,
- d) batch-wise through the vacuum connection.

30